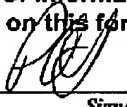


AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)					Docket No. Implex-18/ZM0718	
Applicant(s): Robie et al.						
Application No. 10/015,365	Filing Date 12/13/2001	Examiner Candice C. Melson	Customer No. 28581	Group Art Unit 3732	Confirmation No. 2786	
Invention: INSTRUMENT AND SYSTEM FOR PREPARING THE DISC SPACE BETWEEN TWO VERTEBRAL BODIES						
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:						
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.						
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27						
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.						
CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	35 -	40 =	0	x \$25.00	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	6 -	6 =	0	x \$100.00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2061 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.						
 _____ <i>Signature</i>			Dated: 4/29/2005			
Paul A. Schwarz Reg. No. 37,577 Duane Morris LLP P.O. Box 5203 Princeton, NJ 08543-5203 609-631-2446			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on _____ _____ <i>(Date)</i> _____ <i>Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</i> _____ <i>Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</i> </div>			
cc:						

P11SMALL/REV09

Attorney Docket No. Implex-18/ZM0718

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APR 29 2005

In Re Patent Application of: : Group Art Unit: 3732
Robie, et al. :
Serial No.: 10/015,365 : Examiner: Melson, Candice C.
Filing Date: December 13, 2001 : Atty Dkt.: Implex-18/ZM0718
For: Instrument and System for : Date: April 29, 2005
Preparing the Disc Space :
Between Two Vertebral Bodies :

.....
Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated December 29, 2004. A petition and fee for a one month extension of time to extend the response date to April 29, 2005 is included herewith. Kindly enter the following amendments:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.